

Black copters no laughing matter to Reno-area writer

■ **Conspiracy:** Says mysterious aircraft part of plot to bring nation under U.N. control.

By Mike Sion
GAZETTE-JOURNAL

■ **August 1971,** Lake County, Colo.: 40 sheep are found dead, "blistered" in an unknown manner, after a rancher observes a black helicopter flying over the animals.

■ **July 23, 1975,** Teller County, Colo.: Police search for a mysterious chopper that has appeared and re-appeared in the area. Within weeks 40 incidents of cattle mutilation are reported.

■ **May 7, 1994,** Harahan, La.: A teen-ager home from school is chased 45 minutes by a black helicopter with a rope hanging down. Its occupants point "scopes" at

the teen, who makes a report to the town's police chief.

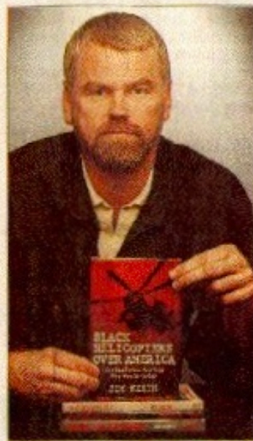
■■■ Those are a few of the reports from various sources near the front of conspiracy author James Keith's latest book, "Black Helicopters Over America," subtitled: "Strikeforce for the New World Order."

The mysterious, unmarked choppers evidently are being spotted all over the United States. And the way Keith — a Reno-area writer who's now hot in the conspiracy genre — explains it, the reputedly ubiquitous whirlybirds may have mutilated livestock in tests of biological-warfare methods.

In fact, he writes that those dark copters are really part of a sinister plot to bring the United States under the armed control of the United Nations. In turn, international industrialists and bankers control the United Nations and are trying to consolidate the planet into a giant plantation.

And politicians are merely their

See **HELICOPTERS** on page 6A



Craig Sailer/Gazette-Journal
CONSPIRACY AUTHOR:
James Keith with his latest book.

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■ **No way:** Skeptics say you can't win a debate over conspiracy theories.

OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING

Defense tries to bolster image

■ **Photos of suspect released:** Attempt to put on human face.

ENID, Okla. (AP) — Trying to put a human face on the man charged with killing 168 people in the Oklahoma bombing, Timothy McVeigh's attorneys released photos and videotape Sunday showing him smiling and relaxed.

"The principal purpose behind it is to present our client as he really is," attorney Stephen Jones said at a news conference at his office.

Jones wanted to counteract pictures of a stone-faced McVeigh, dressed in an orange prison jumpsuit, as he was led from jail two days after the April 19 bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City.

"The FBI wants to present him as they see him. I want to present him as he really is," Jones said. "The public is entitled to know more

■ **"The public is entitled to know more about Mr. McVeigh than the government has released anonymously."**

Stephen Jones
Defense attorney

about Mr. McVeigh than the government has released anonymously."

The 13 photographs taken last week from prison show a grinning, youthful-looking McVeigh in a short-sleeved khaki shirt and pants.

The video, released earlier



McVeigh

Sunday to CNN, shows similar images of McVeigh sitting at a table and talking with his lawyers, even laughing at one point. It has no audio.

The news conference came a day after Newsweek released excerpts of an interview with McVeigh from the federal prison in El Reno. The interview Thursday appears in Monday's issue.

Newsweek said McVeigh wouldn't answer directly when asked if he bombed the federal building in Oklahoma City.

"The only way we can really answer that is that we are going to plead not guilty," McVeigh said.

Jones said Sunday that he instructed McVeigh not to say whether he committed the bombing. Pressed for his personal reaction to the bombing, McVeigh told the magazine he was "horrified" by images of the children killed.

McVeigh and Terry Nichols are the only two people accused in the bombing, which killed 168 people and injured more than 500.

Both are held without bail.

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